hydroxyproline, 5-hydroxylysine, 3-methylhistidine, homoserine, and ornithine may also be used to form agonists or antagonists of human urocortin-related peptide.

a8 cont

IN THE CLAIMS:

~~Please~~ cancel claims 2 and 3.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (amended) DNA encoding urocortin II selected from the group consisting of:

(a) isolated and purified DNA encoding urocortin II protein that has an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10 or 11;

but B1

a9

(b) isolated and purified DNA encoding urocortin II protein, said DNA hybridizes at high stringency conditions to the complementary strand of the isolated DNA of (a) above, wherein high stringency conditions are characterized as membrane washing at high temperature and low salt concentration functionally equivalent to 0.1 x SSC at 65°C; and

(c) isolated and purified DNA encoding urocortin II protein, wherein said DNA differs from the isolated DNAs of (a) and

(b) above in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Please amend claim 4 as follows:

4. (amended) A vector comprising the DNA of claim 1 and regulatory elements necessary for expression of said DNA in a cell.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. (amended) A host cell transfected with the vector of claim 4, said vector encodes urocortin II protein.

Please amend claim 7 as follows:

7. (amended) The host cell of claim 6, wherein said cell is selected from group consisting of a bacterial cell, a mammalian cell, a plant cell and an insect cell.